

Message Text

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73

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-05 JUSE-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5190

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OTTAWA 4028

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, UNGA

SUBJECT: STATUS OF RATIFICATIONS FOR DRUG CONTROL TREATIES

REF: STATE A-8852

1. FOLLOWING RECEIPT REFAIR NCO QUERIED DR. D.M. SMITH OF INTERNATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES, DEPT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE, ON CURRENT OUTLOOK FOR SIGNATURE AND RATIFICATION OF 1972 PROTOCOL AMENDING SINGLE CONVENTION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS AND CONVENTION ON PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES. SMITH SAID THAT GOC ENDORSESES BOTH OF THESE TREATIES BUT ACCESSION STILL "SOME MONTHS OFF".

2. GOC HAS SOME DIFFICULTY WITH EXTRADITION CLAUSE IN AMENDING PROTOCOL AND DEPT OF JUSTIC IS CURRENTLY LOOKING INTO ITS COMPATIBILITY WITH CANADIAN LAW.

ANOTHER DELAYING FACTOR IS HEALTH DEPT RELUCTANCE TO SEIZE PARLIAMENT WITH MORE DRUG LEGISLATION UNTIL BILL PROVIDING FOR LIGHTER SENTENCE FOR USERS OF CANNABIS IS PASSED. COMMENT: THIS BILL CURRENTLY BEING CONSIDERED IN SENATE WHERE IT WAS INTRODUCED AND WILL
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PROBABLY NOT PASS HOUSE OF COMMONS FOR SEVERAL MONTHS.

END COMMENT.

3. IN VIEW OF THESE DELAYS CONSIDERATION BEING GIVEN TO
BY-PASSING PARLIAMENT ALTOGETHER BY HAVING CABINET
APPROVE AMENDMENT TO SINGLE CONVENTION AND POSSIBLY
USE SAME PROCEDURE FOR PSYCHOTROPICS CONVENTION. THIS
METHOD WOULD OBVIOUSLY SPEED UP SIGNATURE AND RATIFICATION.

4. NCO EXPRESSED OUR HOPE THAT GOC MAY STILL BE AMONG
REMAINING EIGHT GOVERNMENTS NEEDED TO BRING AMENDING
PROTOCOL INTO EFFECT.
JOHNSON

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